



AMENDMENT III to the 2008-2009 HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BULLETIN

1. The following policy has been changed:

FINANCIAL AID

Holmes Community College offers a comprehensive program of financial aid to assist students in obtaining a college education. The following federal, state and institutional aid programs are available to HCC students:

- Federal Pell Grants
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG)
- Federal Workstudy (FWS)
- Federal Stafford Student Loans
- Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loans
- H.C.C. Achievement/Performance Scholarships
- H.C.C. Development/Patronage Scholarships

APPLICATION

Holmes Community College accepts the Free Application for Federal Student Aid for all types of Title IV Financial Aid. Students may access this form under Financial Aid at www.holmescc.edu.

A separate student loan packet must be picked up in person at one of the three main campuses in order to apply for a student loan. This may be picked up after the FAFSA application and required information is complete.

DEADLINES

Students are encouraged to apply early in the spring prior to the start of the fall semester in order to complete the process and receive their award early. However, HCC will accept and process applications throughout the school year. Students applying for assistance should apply before June 1, if applying for aid in the Fall Semester. Students applying before the June 1 date will be given primary consideration within the limits of available funds.

POLICIES GOVERNING STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

Financial Aid is contingent upon admission to HCC as a regular student (all admission requirements have been met) at no less than half-time status except for the Pell Grant Program. Students may be less than half-time to receive the Pell Grant.

Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.

Male students must be registered with selective service if required to do so.

Have financial need as determined by an approved need analysis (Student Aid Report).

Students must be making satisfactory academic progress as defined by HCC toward a degree or certificate. Failure to achieve satisfactory progress will result in termination of all federal financial aid offered to that student.

Not be in default on any loan or owe a refund on any grant made under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended at any institution.

Financial assistance received will be used solely for educational purposes.

The Financial Aid Office reserves the right on behalf of HCC to review and revise or cancel an award at any time because of changes in financial, marital, or academic status, or misuse of federal or institutional program guidelines and regulations. Be sure to notify the Office of Financial Aid in advance if you anticipate any of the above changes so that we may advise you of the status of your award.

Recipients of financial assistance from the college are to notify the Office of Financial Aid of any other scholarships, grants or loans extended to them from sources outside the college prior to acceptance of such outside aid.

Financial aid funds are disbursed on a semester-by-semester basis.

Aid is credited to a student's business account at the college and the balance of the award, after the account is cleared, will be disbursed to the student within 10 days of the credit balance being issued. Refund checks will be mailed to the student's address on file. All workstudy checks will be disbursed on a monthly basis.

Any student who withdraws from school or drops below the minimum required hours may be required to repay a prorated amount of any financial aid disbursed to them before the withdrawal or drop. If the refund has not been made to the student, such refunds will be canceled since these funds could no longer be attributed to an educational expense. The Financial Aid Office counts the last date of attendance as the withdrawal or drop date. Students who withdraw from school before they have completed 60% of the semester and have charges against Title IV Funds, such as grants and loans, may have to repay a percentage of those charges with their own money. The percentage of grant/loan funds used to pay institutional charges will be calculated on the number of calendar days the student is enrolled before a total withdrawal occurs. (This means that if you withdraw from school, you may owe Holmes Community College money.)

If your offer of financial assistance includes employment under the provision of the College Work Study Program, it must be understood that the amount shown for this category is the amount of money you may expect to earn during the academic year as a result of work performed and the hours necessary to perform such work.

The college reserves the right to release to the U.S. Department of Education, state agencies, scholarship donors, and scholarship selection committees any information requested pertinent to this application (i.e. enrollment status, address, grade point average, and financial need.) However, HCC believes that application for and receipt of financial assistance is a confidential matter and information will not be released to any others without your written consent.

HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT POLICY ON SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS FOR FEDERALLY FUNDED FINANCIAL AID

All students at Holmes Community College who receive federal financial aid must make satisfactory academic progress toward completion of their degrees within a reasonable period of time. Holmes Community College has approved the following standards

defining satisfactory progress, in accordance with regulations issued by the United States Department of Education. Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) status will be determined at least once each year, generally at the end of the spring term. The first time a student falls below the required Qualitative and Measurable Progress components of this policy, he/she is placed into a “SAP Warning” status. If a student continues to fail these standards after the completion of a subsequent term of enrollment, he/she is placed into SAP Failure Status and is no longer eligible to receive federal aid. The student may continue to attend Holmes Community College at their own expense.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

An undergraduate student is considered to be making satisfactory progress if he/she meets the following:

- is admitted and enrolled as a degree student
- meets the required qualitative measure for financial aid recipients
- maintains measurable progress toward the completion of the degree
- completes degree requirements within a reasonable length of time

REQUIRED QUALITATIVE MEASURE

In order to meet the required qualitative measure, a student must maintain a minimum overall cumulative GPA based on the following scales. This measure becomes effective when the student has attempted at least 6 credit hours at Holmes Community College.

| | |
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| <u>1-48 hours</u> | <u>49 and above</u> |
| 1.75 G.P.A. | 2.0 G.P.A. |

MEASURABLE PROGRESS REQUIREMENT (COMPLETION RATE)

In order to maintain measurable progress toward the completion of their degree, a student must successfully complete a satisfactory percentage of all Holmes Community College coursework and all transfer credit hours attempted. The percentages are outlined below. (Hours attempted include repeated courses, dropped courses, withdrawals, remedial courses, incomplete and completed courses.) This measure becomes effective when a student has attempted at least 6 hours of credit at Holmes Community College.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>1-16 hours</u> | <u>17-32 hours</u> | <u>33-48 hours</u> | <u>49 and above</u> |
| 50% or greater | 50% or greater | 50% or greater | 67% or greater |

Example A: A student has attempted 42 credit hours and successfully completed 36 of those hours, dropped 3 hours and failed 3 hours. Their completion rate will be 36 hours earned divided by 42 hours attempted which equals 85.7% completion rate. Therefore, the student has then met the measurable progress component of this requirement.

Example B: A student has attempted 42 credit hours and successfully completed 20 of those hours, and has either dropped, failed, repeated, has an incomplete, or has withdrawn from the other 16 hours. Their completion rate would be 20 hours divided by 42 hours attempted which equals only a 47.6% completion rate. Therefore, the student has not met the measurable progress component of this requirement.

MAX TIME FRAME:

In order to comply with federal guidelines, Holmes Community College must place students on financial aid suspension when they have attempted 150% or more of the hours required to complete their respective degree. (This is generally 96 attempted hours.) Students who have changed majors, or are considering changing majors, are encouraged to communicate with the Office of Financial Aid any extenuating circumstances that may have resulted in the accumulation of extra hours, particularly those students considering changing to a Career/Technical major. These circumstances will be considered and an extension may be granted for a limited time based on appeal.

APPEAL PROCESS:

A student failing to meet the minimum standards, who has extenuating circumstances or who has a reasonable basis for special consideration may appeal their suspension to the Director of Financial Aid. If a written appeal is needed, it should be presented at least two weeks prior to the beginning of the next semester. The appeal should be emailed to the Director of Financial Aid, Holmes Community College, Goodman, MS 39079. The email address for the Director can be found at www.holmescc.edu and clicking on Financial Aid. Appeals will not be heard over the phone. **Note: Financial aid suspension does not prevent a student from attending Holmes Community College if he/she is not on academic suspension. However, the student may continue to attend HCC at his/her own expense.**

CUMULATIVE RECORD:

A student's entire academic record at Holmes Community College, as well as all transfer work will be evaluated to determine eligibility for financial aid, regardless of whether or not he/she has received aid for all semesters.

PROBATION:

Any student who fails to meet the standards will be given one semester of probation. During this probation semester, a student will continue to be eligible for financial aid.

FINANCIAL AID SUSPENSION:

Upon completion of the probationary semester, all financial aid will be terminated unless the minimum standards are achieved.

NOTIFICATION:

Any student placed on probation or suspension will be notified in writing after the fall and spring semester from the Office of Financial Aid. Summer notifications will not be mailed, but students may check their status anytime using their Doghouse account.

TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID

Grants

Grants are “gift aid” made available to students based on financial need. This type of aid does not have to be repaid. In order to apply for a grant to attend Holmes Community College, all students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, which is used to determine need. The three types of grants at Holmes Community College are described below:

A. Federal Pell Grant

The Pell Grant is a federal program which makes funds available to eligible undergraduate students attending an approved post-secondary institution. Application is made through the Free Federal Application. Be sure to follow the instructions carefully. Within three weeks of submitting the form, you should receive a SAR (Student Aid Report), which tells you whether or not you are eligible. Sometimes the report will need corrections. The Pell Grant is an entitlement grant, provided you are enrolled in a degree or certificate seeking program. The amount of the award will be based on your determination of eligibility, enrollment status, and the cost of attendance.

B. Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)

This program is for the student who shows great need. Unlike Pell Grant, however, SEOGs are not entitlements. Schools have a set amount of funds for SEOGs and can award no more after those funds are used up. Only undergraduate students are eligible to apply, and in general they must be enrolled at least half-time in an educational institution participating in the program. Also, students must be eligible for the Pell Grant in order to receive SEOG funds. A school may choose to use up to 10% of its SEOG funds for less than half-time students. At Holmes Community College it is our policy to use this fund only on full-time/part-time students with 6 hours or more. The financial aid administrator determines the student’s financial need and will award the student an SEOG in accordance with that need. An SEOG award cannot be less than \$200 an academic year.

C. Mississippi Resident Tuition Assistance Grant (MTAG) Program

The MTAG is a State-sponsored grant available to undergraduate student. Eligibility requirements include:

- The student must be a current legal resident of Mississippi for one year immediately preceding application for the MTAG.

- The student must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the Statement of Certification.
- The student must be receiving less than a full Federal Pell Grant.
- As an entering freshman, the student must have a cumulative high school grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale and a minimum ACT of 15. (EXCEPTION: Students enrolled in a program leading to a certificate are only required to meet the admission criteria for their specific program of study.)
- The student must be accepted on a full-time basis at an eligible institution.
- The student must maintain progress toward a degree with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- The student must not currently be in default on a federal or state loan or owe a refund on a federal or state grant.
- The student must reapply annually.
- The student must meet other criteria as set by the eligible institution.

Award Amount: Up to \$500 annually for freshmen and sophomores; Up to \$1,000 annually for juniors and seniors.

Deadline To Apply: August 1

Other: The student must remain continuously enrolled on an annual basis, unless granted an exception, or the amount received will have to be repaid.

E. **Mississippi Eminent Scholars Grant (MESG) Program**

The MESG is a State-sponsored grant available to “first-time-in-college” students and renewal applicants only.

Eligibility:

- The student must be a current legal resident of Mississippi for one year immediately preceding application for the MESG.
- The student must be recognized as a semifinalist or finalist by the National Merit or National Achievement Scholarship Programs and have a minimum cumulative high school grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale; OR have a minimum score 29 on the ACT or its equivalent of 1280 on the SAT and have a minimum of cumulative grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- The student must be accepted on a full-time basis at an eligible institution.
- The student must maintain progress toward a degree with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- The student must not currently be in default on a federal or state loan or owe a refund on a federal or state grant.
- The student must reapply annually.
- The student must meet other criteria as set by the eligible institution.

Amount Of Award: Up to \$2,500 annually, not to exceed the tuition and mandatory fees.

Deadline To Apply: August 1

Other: The student must remain continuously enrolled on an annual basis, unless granted an exception, or the amount received will have to be repaid.

Student Employment

Federal College Work-Study Program —The primary purpose of this program is to provide jobs for students who have financial need and who want to earn a part of their educational expenses.

The college work-study program is one of the most popular aid programs on campus. If it is offered, students have a chance to earn part of their college expenses and a chance to receive valuable work experience, possibly in their field of study. The actual number of hours a student works is determined by the student's need for financial aid. The financial aid office assigns jobs and processes the payrolls. In order to qualify, students must have been accepted on at least a half-time basis at Holmes Community College and must show academic promise and ability to maintain satisfactory progress toward a degree or certificate. The student must demonstrate need for financial assistance and must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States. Holmes Community College will use 5% of its CWS allocation for community service jobs.

Loans

Low interest student loans are available to qualified students at HCC. Students loans, in general, must be repaid under some type of deferred repayment plan. All students who want to apply for any student loan must first complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The student loan application may be picked-up at the financial aid office only. Online applications submitted through a bank or credit union will not be accepted. Students must be enrolled in 6 hours or more per semester at the time the loan funds are disbursed. Students who drop below 1/2 time status will have their loans voided.

Federal Stafford Loan (FSL)

Description: This type of loan is a low-interest loan made to a student by a lender such as a bank, credit union, or savings and loan association. This loan is insured by the federal government.

Loan Origination Fee: Lenders are currently authorized to deduct a loan origination fee from the loan proceeds.

Information regarding student loans are available at www.holmescc.edu and clicking on Financial Aid.

Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loans

The terms of the Unsubsidized Loans are the same as the terms for Subsidized Stafford Loans except as described below:

- A. **Interest Payment:** The government does not pay interest on your Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loan. You must pay all of the interest that accrues on this loan during the time you are enrolled in school, during the grace period, and during periods of repayment and authorized deferment. There are two ways for you to pay interest during these periods: (1) you may make monthly or quarterly payments to

your lender or (2) you and your lender may agree to add your interest to the principal of your loan, but no more often than quarterly. (This is called capitalization.) If you do not make an interest payment as scheduled while in school or during a period of authorized deferment your interest will be capitalized.

2. The following Technical class has been changed:

FST 1213 has been changed to FST 1214 - Embalming I (Pre/Co-requisite: FST 1113). Three lectures. Two hours laboratory. Four hours credit.

The following Technical class has been added:

FST 1523 - Restorative Art/Color & Cosmetics (Pre-requisite: FST 1113).

An in-depth study of anatomical modeling. Familiarization with instruments, materials, and techniques of rebuilding human features. Study of color theory and application of restorative techniques in the funeral setting, which includes cosmetics and hair treatment. Two lectures. Two hours laboratory. Three hours credit.

1. The following Technical program has been changed:

Industrial Maintenance Mechanics

• **Spring Semester**

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| • Industrial Electricity For Maintenance Mechanics | IMM 1813 |
| • Equipment Installation and Alignment | IMM 1515 |
| • Industrial Maintenance Math and Measurement | IMM 1122 |
| • Maintenance Welding and Metals | IMM 1734 |
| • AC Circuits | <u>EET 1123</u> |
| • | 16 hours |

• **Summer Semester**

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| • Blueprint Reading | IMM 1132 |
| • Power Tool Applications | IMM 1224 |
| • Microcomputer Applications | <u>BOT 1133</u> |
| • | 9 hours |

• **Fall Semester**

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| • Advanced Electricity for Industrial Maintenance Trades | IMM 1823 |
| • Principals of Hydraulics and Pneumatics | IMM 1314 |
| • DC Circuits | EET 1114 |
| • Motor Control Systems | ELT 1413 |
| • Programmable Logic Controllers | <u>ELT 2613</u> |
| • | 17 hours |

IMM 1534 has been changed to IMM 1515 -- Equipment Installation and Alignment
Instruction in pre-installation checks, assembly, location and layout of equipment,
preparation of foundations and anchoring procedures, rigging and hoisting, and alignment
and initial setup of equipment. Two lectures. Six hours laboratory. Five hours credit.

**IMM 1814 has been changed to IMM 1813 – Industrial Electricity/Industrial
Maintenance mechanics.** One lecture. Four hours laboratory. Three hours credit.

I certify the above amendment is true and correct in content and policy.



Dr. Fran Cox, Vice President for Academic Programs

_____**November 14, 2008**_____
Date